

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02
OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 INRE-00
USIE-00 PRS-01 SSO-00 /049 W
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O 010805Z JUL 77 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5249

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 3548

PASS: AID/ASIA/BIS

E.O. 11652: ADS-JULY1, 1978
TAGS: EAGR, EAID, BG
SUBJECT: STATEMENT FOR PARIS CONSORTIUM MEETING

REF: STATE 152902

1. COUNTRY TEAM AND AA/ASIA SUGGEST FOLLOWING CHANGES
IN SECOND STATEMENT.

A. IN FIRST SENTENCE AFTER THE WORD TO AND BEFORE WORD
CONGRESSIONAL INSERT QUOTE ADEQUATE PROJECT PREPARATION
COMMA UNQUOTE.

B. DELETE PARAGRAPHS CONCERNING PL 480 TITLE I AND
TITLE II COMMODITIES AND INSERT FOLLOWING QUOTE THE UNITED
STATES GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES THE CONTINUED NEED FOR FOOD AID
AS WELL AS THE NECESSITY FOR THE BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT TO BE
ABLE TO DETERMINE IN ADVANCE WHEN FOOD SHIPMENTS WILL ARRIVE
AND HOW MUCH IS PROGRAMMED. WE BELIEVE THAT FOOD AID DONORS
MUST ACT RESPONSIBLY TO PROVIDE FOOD IN REQUIRED AMOUNTS
ON A REGULAR BASIS, SO AS TO AVOID PORT CONGESTION AND TO
ENABLE THE BDG TO PLAN. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT, ON ITS SIDE,
THE BDG AS A FOOD AID RECIPIENT, MUST ACT RESPONSIBLY TO
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IMPLEMENT POLICIES LOOKING TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF ITS GOAL OF
FOODGRAIN SELF SUFFICIENCY. THERE SHOULD BE STEADY PROGRESS
IN IMPLEMENTING SUCH MEASURES. FOOD AID IN THE ABSENCE OF
SUCH MEASURES WEAKENS THE GROWERS' INCENTIVE TO PRODUCE MORE.

QUOTE TO MOVE TOWARD THIS GOAL OF PARTNERSHIP, THE UNITED
STATES GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF 200,000 TONS
OF FOODGRAIN UNDER PL 480 TITLE I DURING BANGLADESH FISCAL

YEAR 1978. THE U.S. STANDS READY TO NEGOTIATE ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS TO MEED DEMONSTRATED NEEDS TO ARRIVE DURING U.S. FY 1978, SUBJECT ONLY TO THE CONTINUED POSITIVE MOVEMENT ON THE PART OF THE BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT IN ENACTING SELF-HELP MEASURES.

QUOTE THE U.S. WILL ALSO PROVIDE 100,000 MT UNDER TITLE II IN EMPLOYMENT GENERATING FOOD FOR WORK.

QUOTE AS WE HAVE ALREADY INFORMED THE BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT, THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO WATCH THE FOOD SITUATION CLOSELY AND WITH CONCERN, AND IN THE EVENT OF A FOOD EMERGENCY OR NEW REQUIREMENTS WHICH WE CANNOT NOW FORESEE, WE WOULD ACT PROMPTLY TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FOODGRAIN. UNQUOTE.

2. COMMENT: WE PREFER THE FLOOR CONCEPT SUGGESTED ABOVE AS A MORE EFFECTIVE MEANS OF ACHIEVING OUR OBJECTIVE OF ESTABLISHING THE NEED FOR MATCHING FOOD AID WITH BDG SELF HELP MEASURES. EXPERIENCE THIS PAST YEAR INDICATES THAT THE USE OF ANY DOLLAR FIGURE, NO MATTER HOW WELL QUALIFIED, WOULD BE PICKED UP BY THE BDG AS A FIRM COMMITMENT. MASTERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSORTIUMS, FOOD ASSISTANCE, PL 480 TITLE 1, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DACCA03548
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: AS JULY1, 1978
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770235-0149
Format: TEL
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770799/aaaadijc.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dbf07f72-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 152902
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1988608
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATEMENT FOR PARIS CONSORTIUM MEETING
TAGS: EAGR, EAID, BG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dbf07f72-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009